

# East Oregonian

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When the cruisers of Admiral Kamimura's fleet went into action with the Vladivostock squadron, the Japanese crews had not slept for three days and nights. Someone asked Admiral Kamimura why he saved the men from the Rurik when she had ruthlessly killed so many Japanese—even non-combatants. He replied: "Before and at the time we are engaged in battle, we may feel a desire for revenge; but when a vanquished foe is before us, we can but know a sense of pity. It is also international law to be merciful to a conquered enemy. Moreover, I have never forgotten what I learned from the great Saigo. When the castle of Aizawa fell at the time of the war of the Restoration, Saigo, then in command of the Imperial forces, ordered all the houses of the town to be closed, that none might gaze upon the prisoners as they passed by. Again at Hakodate, in the same war, he allowed none not immediately concerned in the surrender of the fort to witness the humiliation of its defenders."—Mrs. Inazo Nitobe, in The Outlook.

It is a shame that there is not more enthusiasm over the election of a president. Two such admirable American citizens as Roosevelt and Parker are entitled to a good performance from the jumping-jacks in which they pull the string. It is discourteous to the candidates, if nothing worse, to spend so little money and make so little noise.

Secretary Hay has been busy for several days explaining to the Associated Press that it is no reflection on John Barrett, minister to Panama, for the president to order the secretary of war to go to Panama to investigate the trouble which Barrett had just declared did not exist. It is no reflection on Barrett, of course. It is just a mild way of telling Barrett that the president didn't believe a word he said and would not risk the interests of the United States in his hands.

Nobody is being deceived by the enforced civility of two or three of the whiskey peddling joints just preceding the election. They are still in existence with all their accustomed viciousness suppressed for a time in the effort to deceive a few people until after the election. After that, if they still have a right to do business, they will be more brazen than ever, because of their temporary triumph. If the city authorities and the respectable saloon men will co-operate with the moral element, in the city, in abolishing the dives where women, boys and Indians are fed on tarantula juice, they need have no fear of the prohibition vote. Otherwise, they may well be alarmed. Decency is all anybody demands.

Splendid and beautiful is that unfaltering patriotism of the little brown Japanese, which, from the farthest corners of the world harkens to the faintest call of his old Nippon, to offer his life for her safety. It is not the blind idolatry of the unthinking pagan which thus appeals to the Jap, but it is a love of country and a high national life, made strong and adhesive by thousands of years of history and tradition. It is not fear of the wrath of a ruler, but rather a love that is amazing in its self-sacrifice. The young men now speeding back from Europe, America, Africa, Australia and the ocean islands, to join the Japanese army have all left profitable employment, where they were earning ten times the laborer's income in Japan. They have already sent home their war contribution. Now they are paying out their earnings in transportation to the mother country, have forsaken every opportunity that beckoned in their newly adopted homes, and are offering their

lives that the little island empire may triumph and move onward. This is the most beautiful chapter in the story of the war.

If the attack of the Baltic fleet on the helpless fishing smacks was made through maliciousness, the penalty should be the subjugation of the Russian empire by England. If it was done through ignorance and insane fear of a Japanese war vessel, the penalty should be little less severe, because of Russia's culpability in turning such incapacity and irresponsibility loose upon the high seas with such engines of destruction at its disposal. No commerce is safe in the presence of those bloodthirsty, war-mad brigands of the north. The would-be Christian nations should drive Russia back from the east coast of Asia, restore Manchuria to China, re-establish the sovereignty and independence of Korea and force the slav to confine his depredations to his own territory. The powers are too cowardly and too jealous to enforce even the common international rules of decent warfare. The reverence for a throne and a puppet crown is stronger than the fear of God or the love of the rights of man. Russia has insulted every doctrine of international rights and every established precedent regulating and guaranteeing the individuality of nations, and yet no word of protest is spoken by the "Christian" powers.

If the vote polled by Alton B. Parker is less than that polled by Bryan in his last campaign, it is safe to say that the democracy of the country will again sweep back to the Bryan sentiment, after having tested the strength of the conservative ideals as represented by Parker. Should Parker's vote be greater than Bryan's, it will perhaps be a signal for a permanent conservatism in the party and it will remain for the socialists, with the aid of the ultra-radicals from both democratic and republican parties to fight out the issue of government ownership, which is the next momentous issue to be settled by the American people. There is no use to speak the words "government ownership" with bated breath and awe-struck countenance. It is one of the great problems of government and it is now up for solution. If Parker fails to hold the confidence of the radical democrats, it is safe to say that a government ownership of railroads, telegraphs, telephones and coal mines, democratic platform, four years hence, after the people have paid for a few more \$5,000,000 warships, will sweep the country completely. The splendid results of municipal ownership of light, water and other public utilities, is urging forward with irresistible force the growing sentiment in favor of government ownership. It is an educational process and cannot be attained at a bound. Rotteness and fraud in dealing with the people and in throttling helpless industries by exorbitant rates and unjust regulations are all carrying forward the educational campaign slowly, but with certainty. It remains for the election on November 8 to decide on the next sponsor for this great principle.

## THE SACAJAWEA MONUMENT.

It is encouraging to note the interest which is being aroused in distant states regarding the Sacajawea statue. The Dallas News of Dallas, Texas, says in a recent issue:

"Miss Alice Cooper's model for the statue of Sacajawea, the 'Bird Woman' who accompanied Lewis and Clark on their memorable expedition, has been finished, and the making of the larger model eight feet in height preparatory to the bronze figure will follow shortly. \* \* \* Miss Cooper's statue represents a young Indian squaw clad in fringed buckskin garments. She carries her papoose strapped to her back. The pose suggests the explorer and pioneer; the figure is apparently advancing, and the action telling vitally in the model; the face of the young Indian is uplifted and wears an expression of idealized wonder; the upraised hand seems to be parting the branches of the forest path.

"The sculptor has shown fidelity to the traditions of the intrepid woman who led the white men on their perilous journey. The spirit of the immortal Sacajawea is portrayed, and the 'Bird Woman' is lifted by the hands of art from the degrading characteristics which mark the features of her descendants among the Shoshone or Snake Indians of her tribe today. Miss Cooper is a Western girl, a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute."

## NEWEST SLANG WORD.

Chefoo has been added to our vocabulary. In the East when anybody relates some astounding tale the cry of "That's a Chefoo!" greets it. As Chefoo has turned out some of the most terrific rumors war was ever blessed with, it wouldn't be strange if the name of the enterprising place was thus immortalized. So, if you don't care to say to a man frankly you're a liar, why just call him a Chefoo. He will appreciate it just as well besides. It sounds less rude.

Portland has \$32 left over from the fund collected to entertain the mining congress. The cost of the congress was \$210.

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## FUNNY WAYS.

Funny way de worl' go  
Underneath de sun,  
Po' man got sixteen chillun,  
Rich man ain't got none!

Oh, believers,  
Dis yer worl' is strange;  
Won't know nuffin' 'bout it  
'Til we make de glory change!

Funny way de worl' go  
Wen it's heaven ter win,  
Rich man squeeze thos' de needle-eye  
Po' man walk right in!

Oh, believers,  
Dis yer worl' is strange;  
Ain't guine on'erstan' it  
'Til we make de glory change!  
—Atlanta Constitution.

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